



# Australian Bureau of Statistics

## 1300.1 - New South Wales Year Book, 2001

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### Statistics that tell us the way we are in NSW

A wide range of summary statistics for New South Wales were released today in the 2001 edition of the **New South Wales Year Book**, published by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS).

The New South Wales Acting Regional Director of the ABS, Mr Geoff Smith, said the **New South Wales Year Book** provided a comprehensive statistical overview of aspects of the economic and social conditions in the State of NSW.

"It's a terrific record of how we are," he said. "New features in this 81st edition of the Year Book include an Industry Overview which provides a broad picture on all industry sectors in NSW.

"The inclusion of a new Communication and Information Technology chapter emphasises the importance of information technology in our society as well as the growing range of statistics available on this topic.

"Data from a 1998 NSW survey of home security precautions have been included in the Law and Order chapter. The Historical Series Tables have been expanded to include two important economic indicators - the Consumer Price Index and labour force status."

Some key facts from the **New South Wales Year Book** include:

- The median age of all mothers who gave birth in 1999 was 29.6 years, compared with 28.2 years in 1989;
- The median age at first marriage for brides and bridegrooms in 1999 was 26.3 years and 28.1 years respectively, the highest ages ever recorded;
- In June 1999, 49% of NSW children under 12 years of age had formal and/or informal child care arrangements (520,700 children);
- Average weekly expenditure on recreation by households in NSW was \$91.63, equivalent to 12% of average weekly expenditure on goods and services;
- Non-government schools had a higher apparent retention rate (82%) than government schools (61%) in 1999;
- In June 2000, 43% of people in NSW had private health insurance for hospital coverage, compared to 31% in June 1999;
- A total of 587 persons were killed on NSW roads during 1999-2000, an increase of 29 fatalities (5%) from 1998-99;

- Employment in the NSW coal industry fell by 19% from 12,119 in 1998 to 9,763 in 1999;
- At 30 June 1999 there were 6,400 computing services businesses in NSW compared with 4,100 at 30 June 1996.

Further details can be found in **New South Wales Year Book 2001** (cat. no. 1300.1) available in ABS Bookshops in all capital cities. The main features of the publication are available on this site.

If you wish to purchase a copy of this publication, contact the ABS Bookshop in your capital city.

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